

# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(54) PREPARATION OF FLAVONOID NATURAL PIGMENT BY ENZYMIC TREATMENT

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To produce a pigment substance in an extract and obtain the substance, by reacting polyphenol oxidase with a plant tissue, etc. containing a flavone compound.

CONSTITUTION: An enzyme, e.g. polyphenol oxidase, capable of oxidizing and polymerizing a polyphenol is reacted with a plant tissue containing a flavone compound, e.g. a husk of a cocoa bean, peanut pellicle or green tea, to increase the amount of a pigment substance, which is then extracted. Alternatively, the plant tissue is extracted with an aqueous medium under heating and alkaline conditions to give an extract from the plant tissue. The resultant extract is then adjusted to a pH suitable for the action of the enzyme, and reacted with the polyphenol oxidase. The solution after the treatment with the enzyme is precipitated to remove impurities, and the aimed pigment substance is precipitated at a pH of 9W12.

## LEGAL STATUS

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